



FOREST BROOK SCHOLAR EXCELLENCE



2023-2024

Forest Brook Great Parents,

We are so excited about the academic and social emotional growth our scholars have shown this AMAZING school year. Each year it is our goal for Forest Brook Middle School to be your school of choice in the city of Houston, Texas. In order to continuously improve each year, we must make adjustments to our systems and routines. Please review the information below to see some of our major changes that will be put into place. We want to ensure all of our parents have the entire summer to prepare for another successful school year. Our scholars cannot be successful without you their GREAT PARENTS!!!

- I. **Communication Policy:** To ensure you stay up to date on all things Forest Brook we will begin utilizing Class Dojo. This will allow us to reward scholars with Dojo points, be able to communicate directly with you, our Great Parents, and for you to be able to communicate with us.

Please use the link below to sign up for Dojo now. We will update Dojo throughout the summer. This link will also be placed on the Forest Brook website for easy access: <https://www.houstonisd.org/forestbrook>

<https://www.classdojo.com/ul/p/addKid?target=school&schoolID=520d0e6b2c72a7345e001ad7>

- II. **Cell Phone Policy:** All cell phones will be collected each day in Advocacy/Home Room. Scholars will label their phones and the teacher will lock the phones in a lock box. Scholars will return to their Advocacy teacher at the last period of the day. They will retrieve their phones at that time. If a scholar refuses to turn in their phone during advocacy and is caught with the

phone, it will be confiscated, parents will be contacted, and the parent will come and pay the \$15.00 fee to retrieve the phone. **Please know that this policy is in place to protect our scholars and school environment. Scholars use their phones throughout the day to cause negative interactions to happen on campus. There are several phones available throughout the building in the case of an emergency.**

- III. **Backpack Policy:** Backpacks must be either mesh or clear so that we are able to see into the backpack with ease. Backpacks must be free from decorations, enhancements or writing that advertise, glorify, or support:
- a. Lewd/offensive/vulgar/obscene, or profane language/gestures
 - b. Gangs or illegal activities
 - c. Tobacco, alcohol, or illegal drugs
 - d. Violence

Scholars may not bring athletic drawstring bags or backpacks. Scholars may not bring oversized purses. **Small purses may be worn for personal items.**

- IV. **Uniform Policy:** Forest Brook Middle School's philosophy is to maintain a focus on the educational process and ensure the reduction of distractions and disruptions to the learning environment.

a. **School Shirt (General Policy):**

- i. 6th Grade – Yellow/Gold Polo-type shirt ONLY
- ii. 7th Grade – Gray Polo-type shirt ONLY
- iii. 8th Grade – Black Polo-type shirt ONLY

Polo type shirts are available for purchase on campus beginning in June and a link will be provided on the forest brook website so that you can purchase them.

Forest Brook Website: <https://www.houstonisd.org/forestbrook>

Polo-type shirts purchased through outside merchants are limited to the school colors of yellow/gold, gray, or black and must be solid in color. Undershirts should not be visible.

Polo-type shirts may have a small logo on the lapel or shoulder area; however, the logo may not be larger than 1 inch.

- School shirts may not be sheer or see-through (undergarments should not be visible).
- School shirts may not be altered, cut, colored, written-on, rolled up or tied in any manner other than the original design of the shirt.
- School shirts may be worn modestly, cleavage may not be exposed.
- Oversized shirts are not permitted.
- PE uniform shirts are not to be worn outside of the PE area.

b. T- Shirts:

- i. Only Forest Brook issued or purchased Forest Brook T-shirts are permitted on assigned Spirit Day ONLY which is Friday. Undershirts should not be visible.
- ii. T-shirts given by Forest Brook coaches, clubs, or sponsors (example: athletic shirts, band shirts, cheer shirts, or art, etc.) may be worn on Spirit Day ONLY which is Friday.

Forest Brook shirts will be available to purchase on campus beginning in June and a link will be provided on the forest brook website so that you can purchase them.

Forest Brook Website: <https://www.houstonisd.org/forestbrook>

c. Pants:

- i. Solid color (tan) khaki, navy, or black casual slacks or capri-style pants with belt loops are required.
- ii. Pants may not have extra pockets, zippers, or designs.
- iii. Pants must be hemmed appropriately and not drag the ground.
- iv. Pants may not be torn at the seams or have any holes in them.
- v. Pants may not be denim, denim-like, corduroy, or stretch material.
- vi. Pants may not be skinny leggings, jeggings, wide-legged, low rider, below the waist, hip hugger, or excessively-tightly-fitted.
- vii. Sweatpants, pajama pants or suggestive pants are not permitted.
- viii. Pants must be worn at the waist and must fit snugly.
- ix. PE or athletic shorts are not to be worn under pants.
- x. Pants may not be oversized, baggy, or sagging.

d. Skirts and Shorts:

- i. Skirts, skorts, and shorts are not permitted for standardized dress at Forest Brook Middle School.

e. Shoes:

- i. Shoes should provide adequate support and safety.
- ii. NO Crocs, Bubble Shoes, Flip-flops, horseshoes, slippers, steel toe boots and slides are permitted on campus.
- iii. Shoes with heels higher than 2 inches are not permitted.
- iv. High boots are not permitted; boots must be below the knee.

f. Jackets, Sweatshirts and Sweaters:

- i. Hoodies, that are not Forest Brook Master Squad, are not allowed in the building at any time.
- ii. Plain/solid yellow/gold, grey, or black, sweaters, sweatshirts, crewneck sweatshirts, zipper sweatshirts, jackets, or coats are permitted.

NO HOODIES. Please do not purchase them as a part of your child's school uniform. They will be confiscated at the entrance. Parents will be required to retrieve them from the campus.

- iii. Jackets may have a small logo on the lapel or shoulder area; however, the logo may not be larger than 1 inch.
- v. Vests (of any style) are not permitted.
- vi. No oversized outerwear is permitted.
- vii. Jean jackets (denim or denim-like like) are not permitted.
- viii. Official Forest Brook jackets or sweatshirts are permitted.

Forest Brook standardized shirt (described above) must be worn underneath outerwear at all times.

g. Belts:

- i. Plain leather or cloth black or brown belts are permitted.
- ii. NO initials, oversized buckles, studs, metal trappings or oversized so the belt hangs down.

iii. No graphics or labels on belts are permitted.

h. Hats:

- i. Due to the cold temperature scholars may wear a sweater cap/beanie.
- ii. No other head gear of any kind is permitted, including bandanas, caps, doo-rags, bonnets, crocheted scarves, or hoods.

i. Grooming:

- i. Appropriate appearance and hygiene are expected each day.
- ii. Excessive make-up, Crayola are not permitted.
- iii. Multiple extravagant hair colors are not permitted. Please stick to one color at a time.

We understand our scholars want to express their individuality; however, Great Parents please make sure it is not a distraction to others.

j. Jewelry:

- i. Spikes, safety pins, gauges, pull tabs, paper clips, chains, or dog collars are not permitted.
- ii. No visible body piercings with the exception of ear piercings. Tongue piercings are not permitted.
- iii. Jewelry reflecting gang, gothic, or para-military related items including but not limited to rings, necklaces, bracelets, and chockers are not permitted.
- iv. Jewelry must be free from decorations, enhancements, or writing that advertise, glorify or support:
 - a. Lewd/offensive/vulgar/obscene, or profane language/gestures
 - b. Gangs or illegal activities
 - c. Tobacco, alcohol, or illegal drugs
 - d. Violence
- v. Feathers in the hair or used as jewelry are not permitted.
- vi. Hoop earrings may not be larger than a quarter-sized.

Special occasions dress opportunities will be announced in advance and may be related to academics and behavior.

Free dress opportunities must adhere to the dress code guidelines.

If you have questions about the dress code policy, please contact an administrator.

Alterations to the dress code are not permitted. The integrity of the dress code serves to enhance a positive, safe learning environment with minimal distractions from our academic pursuit of inquiry and knowledge.

Forest Brook MS administration reserves the right to make final decisions or revisions concerning the dress code. Repeated infractions of the dress code policy will be deemed as defiant behavior and subject to disciplinary action by the grade level administrator.

